

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY LANSING



DAN WYANT DIRECTOR

VIA E-MAIL

TO:

Governor Rick Snyder

Senate Natural Resources, Environment, and Great Lakes Committee Members

House Natural Resources Committee Mambers

FROM:

Dan Wyant, Director

DATE:

October 22, 2014

SUBJECT:

Report on the Low-Level Radioactive Waste 2013 Survey

In accordance with Section 18a of the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Authority Act, 1987 PA 204, as amended, generators of low-level radioactive waste (LLRW) are required to report annually to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Low-Level Radioactive Waste Authority, certain information on the volume, type, and activity of the LLRW produced. This report is a brief summary of the information submitted by generators for waste generated in calendar year 2013.

Forty-seven facilities reported that they generated waste requiring off-site disposal. The following table compares 2013 data with that of 2012.

	Number of	Volume of	Number of	Volume of
**************************************	Facilities	LLRW	Facilities	LLRW
	Reporting	Generated in	Reporting	Generated in
Type of Facility	Waste in 2013	2013 (ft ³)	Waste in 2012	2012 (ft ³)
Academic	12	1,153	12	1,427
Government	5	9	4	9
Industry	18	577	13	513
Medical	9	56	4	8
Utility	3	44,549	4	43,945
TOTAL	47	46,345*	37	45,902

^{*}Total 2013 volume different due to rounding

LLRW is categorized in Classes. Class A waste comprises the largest volume of LLRW. Michigan waste generators can ship Class A waste to a licensed disposal facility in Utah or Texas or store on-site until decayed to background. Certain organic chemicals and animal carcasses containing low concentrations of certain radioactive materials can also be shipped to licensed out-of-state facilities for incineration. Class B and C wastes are generated in much smaller volumes than Class A waste, but have significantly more radioactivity than Class A waste. Class B and C wastes are stored on-site until decayed to background levels or disposed

SUBJECT: Report on the Low-Level Radioactive Waste 2013 Survey Page 2 October 22, 2014

of in the licensed disposal facility in Texas. The volume of waste generated in 2013 was 45,644 cubic feet of Class A waste, 460 cubic feet of Class B and C waste, and 240 cubic feet awaiting a final determination of its Class.

If you need further information, please contact Robert Skowronek, Radiological Protection Section, Office of Waste Management and Radiological Protection, at 517-284-6582; or you may contact me at 517-284-6700.

cc: Dennis Muchmore, Governor's Office
Dick Posthumus, Governor's Office
Valerie Brader, Governor's Office
Jim Sygo, Deputy Director, DEQ
Madhu R. Anderson, Director of Policy, DEQ
Maggie Datema, Director of Legislative Affairs, DEQ
Sarah M. Howes, Legislative Liaison, DEQ
James M. Kasprzak, DEQ
Bryce Feighner, DEQ
Amy Epkey, DEQ
Ken Yale, DEQ
Robert Skowronek, DEQ